

# Newsletter of the South Coast Railroad Museum

Vol. 34, No. 3 — Fall 2014

# 32nd Depot Day Here Sept. 28

The 32nd annual "Depot Day" comes to the museum on Sunday, Sept. 28. Event hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please join us for this special day celebrating Goleta Depot's history, including the successful campaign to save the landmark building, and its significance as a community treasure.

#### **Don't Miss the Silent Auction**

Depot Day is a very important museum fundraiser. Every year, the Depot Day silent auction raises thousands of dollars for the museum while giving bidders the chance to take home valuable goods and services, always at great prices.

The 2014 auction will include more than 100 items, including hotel stays, Disney adventures, performing-arts tickets, winery tour, dining at fine restaurants, garden and household items, and a lot more. A partial list is posted online and updated regularly on the museum's website: **goletadepot.org/auction**.

The first auction table will close at 12 noon. Other table closings follow hourly. Bids at the last table will wrap up at 3:30 p.m.

**Please** support the museum by attending *Depot Day*, visiting the silent auction tables, and placing bids on the items of your choice. There is no requirement for bidders to register.

## **Donation Requested At Door**

Upon admission, everyone will be asked to make a \$1 donation to support the museum and its programs and activities, including future landmark preservation work.

## Ride All You Want for One Very Low Price

Depot Day is the only day of the year when you can ride three different types of rail vehicles — miniature-train, museum handcar, and inspection car. For only \$3, Depot Day attendees can buy a wristband that is good for unlimited rides on all three vehicles. (Train & speeder riders must be at least 34 inches tall; 48-in. minimum height for the handcar.)

We are most fortunate to welcome back again this year **Bob Mahan**, who will be giving rides on his ever-popular inspection car. Easily recognized by its bright safety-orange color and familiar tah-pock-a-tah engine sound, Bob's "speeder" was used for many years on the Ventura County Railway.

There will be two Goleta Short Line trains operating on two different tracks this year — a one-third-mile run starting at the Main Station, and a one-sixth-mile route based out of the Westside Station. This is always a lot of fun for riders because of the frequent train meets and opportunities to wave and greet those on passing trains.

#### Find Fab Food in the Club Car

In the "Club Car," **Judy Connors** and her crew will be serving up delicious Depot Dogs and sausage sandwiches, snacks, and a variety of soft drinks.

#### Landmark Open House

Depot Day will also be the only time this year when the public is able to visit and view the agent's apartment, which occupies the entire second floor of the historical building. The Goleta Depot (cont'd. on page 2, See "Depot Day")

Bob Mahan will be back for speeder rides!



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("Depot Day," cont'd. from page 1) station agents and any family lived there and the space is being refurnished to recreate that home atmosphere.

Goleta Depot is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the California Register of Historical Resources. The building has also been designated Santa Barbara County Historical Landmark No. 22.

### **Auction Donations Are Needed**

If you or your business have new items, collectibles or valuable services that you would like to donate to the *Depot Day* silent auction, please call Asst. Director Phyllis Olsen at the museum (805/964-3540) by Sept. 22.

All auction donors are publicly acknowledged both in the museum website and during *Depot Day*, itself. You will also receive a separate, personal acknowledg-

ment, for tax purposes as well as for your own records.



# Become A Volunteer Guide Aboard Amtrak Trains

Do you like to travel? Do you enjoy riding trains and sharing the experience with fellow passengers? If you answer "Yes" to those questions, then the museum's Trails & Rails program might be your perfect volunteer opportunity.

To find out if Trails & Rails is right for you, be sure to attend the information meeting to be held Wed., Oct. 8 at the museum. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. and last about 70-90 minutes. At the meeting you'll learn what it's like to be a Trails & Rails guide, with plenty of opportunity to ask any questions you may have, as well as to meet and interact with some of our current guides. The program is open to members and the general public.

Trails & Rails is an educational program for passengers aboard Amtrak trains. The National Park Service and the South Coast Railroad Museum partner with Amtrak to make it all happen.

The museum's Trails & Rails guides offers a unique travel experience to passengers aboard the long-distance *Coast Starlight* and regional *Pacific Surfliner* trains. Guides ride the trains, presenting informative talks and public-address an-

nouncements about the natural, cultural and historical significance of the route, and points of interest and things to do in the area. Two versions of the program are offered: Some volunteers make their presentations during a one-day Santa Barbarato-San Luis Obispo roundtrip; other guide teams make a two-day trip to San Jose.

Trails & Rails volunteers do not need to be historians or naturalists. Instead, we are looking for dedicated and entertaining



Guide Bern Verbit shares information with a Coast Starlight passenger.

volunteers with an enthusiasm for public speaking, travel, and human interaction.

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old, in good health, and available to make an average of two one-day trips per month during the four-month spring and summer period that the program is offered. Uniforms, program materials, travel, meals, and overnight lodging are all provided.

To reserve a seat for yourself or another at the Oct. 8 meeting, please call the museum today at 805/964-3540.

Donnis Galvan talks about local sights.



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